

Application No. 09/713,260

Attorney Docket No. 21994-00015-US

REMARKS

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

The Office Action and prior art relied upon have been carefully considered. Applicant notes the allowance of claims 5-8 and the allowability of claims 2,4, and 12 subject to being rewritten in independent form.

Claims 1, 3 and 11 have been canceled and claims 2,4, and 12 have been rewritten as required by the Examiner so that these claims should now be allowed.

The specification and claims have been reviewed and amended where necessary to remove informalities. This includes a substitute Abstract. No new matter has been introduced.

Claims 1 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Tanaka; and claims 9-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tanaka in view of Official Notice. In view of the amendments to the claims and the following arguments, the Examiner should find all the remaining claims allowable.

According to the present invention, there is provided a recording medium, which is recorded with at least video information in conjunction with auxiliary information on a track having a predetermined number of data blocks to be a data area of a fixed length (claim 9). Further, the recording medium is recorded with a flag for directly designating a signal format to be outputted by an outputting apparatus in a data block, wherein the flag permits or prohibits the output of video information in a digital signal format, and designates for outputting one of an analog composite signal and an analog component signal or both of them (claim 9).

The flag is recorded in an area allocated in the data block, in which the flag can not be rewritten by a user (claim 10). The flag corresponds to OPC (output control) information shown in Fig. 4 that is recorded in a main header storage area 33 in Fig. 3 (see D-VHS Specifications, Figs. 3 and 4, and page 9, line 4 to page 10, line 26).

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In a reproducing apparatus for reproducing information from a recording medium according to the present invention, when outputting video information being converted into more than one signal format, a signal format of the video information to be outputted from the reproducing apparatus can be designated in accordance with the above-mentioned flag that is reproduced from the recording medium in conjunction with the video information. Therefore, the video information can be conducted through an outputting process in a particular signal format that is intended by a copyright holder of the video information. Consequently, another copyright holder having a different intention for an outputting signal format can be accommodated by utilizing a recorded software, which can be reproduced in the same format by the same reproducing apparatus, or can receive and reproduce a broadcasting signal by the same receiving apparatus.

Accordingly, it is possible to protect copyright properly in accordance with an intention of a copyright holder and provide reproduction information such as various high quality pictures, so that the present invention is extremely useful for industrial applications (page 18, lines 3-20).

In view of the amendments and the points raised above, all the claims in the application are believed to be allowable.

In view of the above, consideration and allowance are, therefore, respectfully solicited.

In the event the Examiner believes an interview might serve to advance the prosecution of this application in any way, the undersigned attorney is available at the telephone number noted below.

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The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees, or credit any overpayment, associated with this communication, including any extension fees, to CBLH Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 21994-00015-US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: April 15, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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